

Attachment 3: GWMP
STPUD Groundwater Management Plan Revision/Update

The attached Groundwater Management Plan signature page is evidence that South Tahoe Public Utility District has an officially adopted Groundwater Management Plan. This plan was adopted on August 17, 2000, so although it meets earlier versions of CWC Section 10750 et al, STPUD is requesting funding from the LGA 2012 grant for a revision of the plan to include the components of SB 1938 and AB 3030, which were added after the original adoption. Although the plan meets many of the objectives as called for in 10750 et al, it currently lacks specific management objectives in the following components:

- Identification and management of wellhead protection areas and recharge areas.
- Regulation of the migration of contaminated groundwater.
- The administration of a well abandonment and well destruction program.
- Mitigation of conditions of overdraft.
- Replenishment of groundwater extracted by water producers.
- Monitoring of groundwater levels and storage.
- Facilitating conjunctive use operations.
- Identification of well construction policies.
- The construction and operation by the local agency of groundwater contamination cleanup, recharge, storage, conservation, water recycling, and extraction projects.
- The development of relationships with state and federal regulatory agencies.
- The review of land use plans and coordination with land use planning agencies to assess activities which create a reasonable risk of groundwater contamination.

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WHEREAS, the South Tahoe Public Utility District (District) owns and operates over thirty municipal drinking water wells (Wells) for the purpose of providing a safe and reliable source of drinking water to the District's customers; and

WHEREAS, man-made contaminants including, but not limited to, methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE), ethanol, and tertiary butyl alcohol (TBA) (collectively Contaminants) are chemical compounds used in the blending of gasoline as an octane booster to meet Federal Clean Air Act requirements for oxygenates in wintertime oxygenated gasoline and in federally reformulated gasoline; and

WHEREAS, unlike some other hydrocarbons in gasoline, the Contaminants are very water soluble and poorly adsorbed into soils allowing them to move with groundwater flow, largely unretarded; and

WHEREAS, some of the Contaminants, such as MTBE, can be tasted at very low concentrations and the Department of Health Services has promulgated a maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) to protect the public from exposure to the Contaminants in drinking water at levels that are harmful to health and has also set secondary maximum contaminant levels for taste and odor; and

WHEREAS, the Contaminants have been detected in many of the Wells and the aquifers within the vicinity of the Wells, which in several instances exceed the MCLs health advisory level and taste and odor threshold for the Contaminants; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the Contaminants now in use or which may be developed and used in the future
2 pose a existing and future risks to the District's groundwater supplies and to the health and safety of
3 its customers; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the District has expended well in excess of \$3,000,000 in responding to
5 contaminated groundwater from several of the Wells, the costs of which are expected to continue
6 in the future in order for the District to supply reliable and safe water to its customers, and

7 **WHEREAS**, to avoid further contamination of the Wells and the groundwater, more effective
8 regulation of groundwater quality is necessary to protect the District's source of supply of water and
9 the health and safety of its customers; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the Legislature has found and declared that groundwater is a valuable natural
11 resource in California, and should be managed to ensure both its safe production and its quality; and

12 **WHEREAS**, it is the expressed intent of the Legislature to encourage local agencies to work
13 cooperatively to manage groundwater resources within their jurisdictions; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the Groundwater Management Act (Water Code, §§ 10750 et seq.) authorizes
15 a local agency whose service area includes a groundwater basin which is not subject to groundwater
16 management pursuant to other provisions of law or a court order, to adopt and implement a
17 Groundwater Management Plan; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the District is a local agency authorized to adopt a Groundwater Management
19 Plan pursuant to the provisions of the Groundwater Management Act; and

20 **WHEREAS**, Water Code section 10753.2 requires that, before preparing a Groundwater
21 Management Plan, a local agency must first hold a public hearing to consider whether to adopt a
22 Resolution of Intention to Draft a Groundwater Management Plan; and

23 **WHEREAS**, The District previously adopted a Resolution of Intention to Draft a
24 Groundwater Management Plan on August 13, 1998 but the two year time period in which to adopt
25 a Groundwater Management Plan has expired before the Groundwater Management Plan could be
26 adopted, and

27 **WHEREAS**, following the publication of notice required by law, the District held a public
28 hearing on August 17, 2000, to receive public comment on whether or not it should adopt a second

1 Resolution of Intention to Draft a Groundwater Management Plan in order to allow sufficient time
2 to respond to comments and finalize the groundwater Management Plan for adoption; and

3 **WHEREAS**, after considering the public comment and other information presented at the
4 hearing, the Board of Directors of the District determined that it is in the best interest of the District
5 to complete drafting a Groundwater Management Plan.

6 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:**

7 1. The Board of Directors of the District deems it advisable and in the best interest of the
8 District to draft a Groundwater Management Plan.

9 2. The District, by adopting this Resolution, declares its intention to draft a Groundwater
10 Management Plan pursuant to Water Code section 10750 et seq.

11 3. The General Manager is directed to take any additional action necessary and appropriate
12 to implement this Resolution.


13 4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

14 **WE, THE UNDERSIGNED**, certify that the above Resolution was duly and regularly
15 adopted and passed by the Board of Directors of the South Tahoe Public Utility District at a regular
16 meeting duly held on the 17th day of August, 2000, by the following vote:

17 **AYES: Directors Wallace, Jones, Strohm, Gochñauer, Mosbacher.**

18 **NOES: None**

19 **ABSENT: None**

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22 **CHRISTOPHER H. STROHM, BOARD PRESIDENT**
23 **SOUTH TAHOE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT**

24 **ATTEST:**

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27 **KATHY SHARP, CLERK OF THE BOARD**
28 **SOUTH TAHOE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT**